

REMARKS

Claims 1-15, 18-20, 22-24, and 27 are pending in the application upon entry of the amendments. Claims 1, 13, 23, and 27 have been amended to include allowable subject matter therein. Claims 16, 21, 25, 26, and 28 have been cancelled. Favorable reconsideration in light of the amendments and the remarks which follow is respectfully requested.

The Amendments and Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner's indication that claims 16, 19-21, 25, and 27 contain allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation. The subject matter of allowable claim 21 has been incorporated into independent claim 1. The subject matter of allowable claim 16 has been incorporated into independent claim 13. The subject matter of allowable claim 25 has been incorporated into independent claim 23. Consequently, claims 16, 21, and 25 have been cancelled. Allowable claim 27 has been amended into independent form. The claims function to disclaim imaging systems that do not have the recited relationship between two or more of diffraction limited spot size of the lens, numerical aperture of the lens, wavelength of light, and pixel pitch.

The Obviousness Rejections

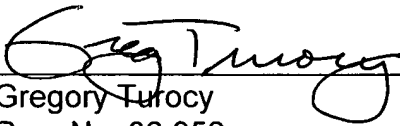
Claims 1, 3-10, 12, 13, 15, 18, 22-24, 26, and 28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Tsuyuki et al in view of Kyrakis. Claims 2 and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Tsuyuki et al in view of Kyrakis further in view of Ishihara. Claim 11 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Tsuyuki et al in view of Kyrakis further in view of Pollard et al. Allowable subject matter is now present in the pending independent claims. Accordingly, the rejections are rendered moot.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In the event any fees are due in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

Respectfully submitted,

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